

MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT DATA
New Hampshire, December 2003
B G McKay

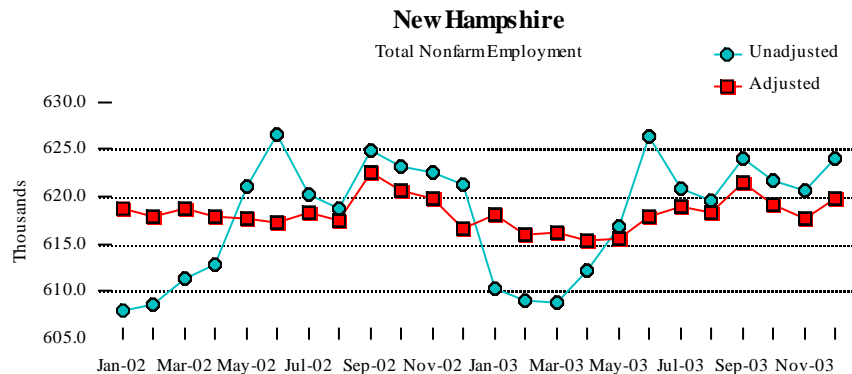
NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) says, “For purposes of analysis, the BLS has further aggregated NAICS sectors into groupings called ‘Supersectors’. The Current Employment Statistics (CES) program will publish data for these supersectors as well as sectors and detailed industries. Also, the aggregations to Goods-Producing and Service-Providing industries will be retained. The CES program will continue to classify all publicly owned establishments in government.”

For more information on the CES conversion to NAICS, see our web site,
<http://www.nhes.state.nh.us/elmi/pdfzip/econanalys/articles/2002/NAICS.pdf>.

Seasonally Adjusted: December’s seasonally adjusted estimates showed that New Hampshire’s total nonfarm employment grew by 2,100 jobs overall. Leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) was the largest contributor to that increase with a 2,700-job increase. Government (supersector 90) also chipped in 200 jobs to the mix.

Construction (supersector 20) and manufacturing (supersector 30) held their respective December employment levels at those established in November.

Trade, transportation, utilities (supersector 40) rained on the seasonal parade with a 500-job reduction in December according to the seasonally adjusted estimates.



Unadjusted: The holiday season arrived in New Hampshire as total nonfarm employment expanded by 3,300 jobs in December’s unadjusted estimates. There were two major contributors to the December totals. Leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) added 2,000 jobs, and trade, transportation, and utilities (supersector 40) kicked in 1,900 jobs.

Three other supersectors also experienced employment growth, but to a lesser extent. Employment in manufacturing (supersector 30) grew by 500 jobs, while information (supersector 50) and financial activities (supersector 55) each augmented their work force with 100 additional workers.

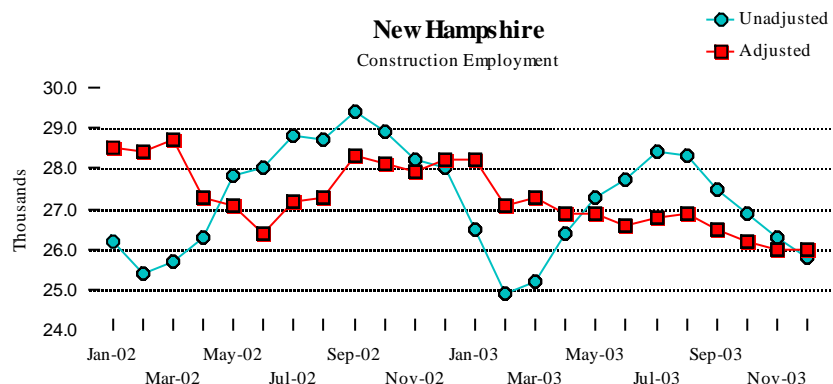
Several supersectors found it necessary to reduce the number employees. Constructions led the way with a 500-job reduction. Education and health services (supersector 65) and government (supersector 90) followed that up by each trimming 300 jobs from their rosters. To complete this side of the ledger, natural resources and mining (supersector 10 and other services (supersector 80) each pared back its staffing by 100 jobs.

NATURAL RESOURCES AND MINING

The sample indicated that elements in nonmetallic mineral mining and quarrying (industry group 2123) provided the major impetus behind the 100-job drop in natural resources and mining (supersector 10).

CONSTRUCTION

Those components engaged in construction of buildings (subsector 236) and heavy and civil

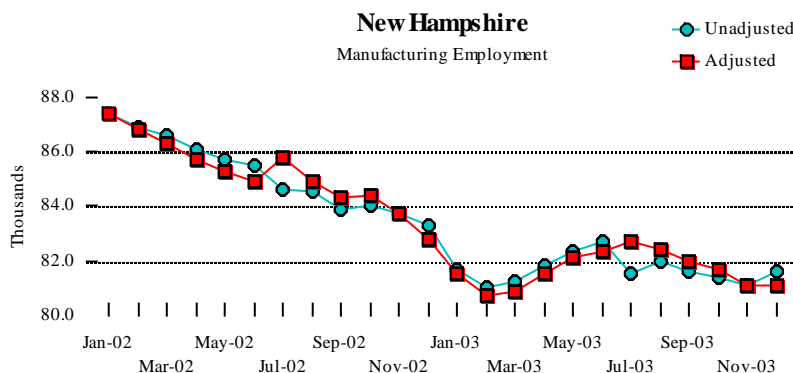


engineering construction (subsector 237) accounted for the 500-job loss in construction (supersector 20), as the employment for special trade contractors (subsector 238) stayed at the previous month's level.

MANUFACTURING

December's manufacturing (supersector 30) employment in New Hampshire expanded by 500 jobs. Durable goods manufacturing employment level grew by 600 workers, while nondurable goods manufacturing shed 100 workers from its ranks.

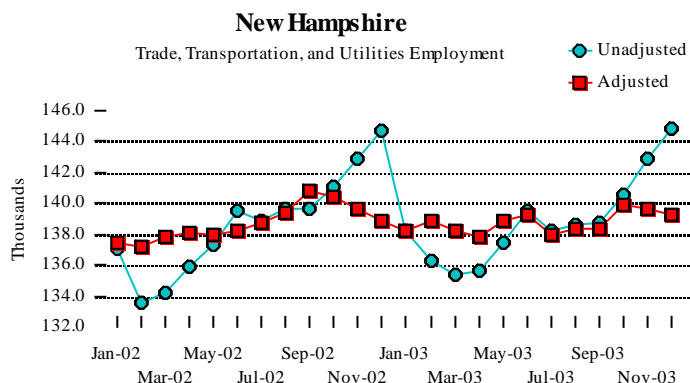
Most of the published industries within durable goods manufacturing remained unchanged. There were exceptions. Computer and Electronic Product Manufacturing (subsector 334) added 100 jobs to its roster in December. A closer examination of the published data revealed that navigational, measuring, electromedical, and control instruments manufacturing (industry group 3345) was responsible for the increase within the subsector. To complete the list of durable goods manufacturing industries that added employment, electrical equipment, appliance, and component manufacturing (subsector 335) took on an additional 100 employees.



At the aggregate, nondurable goods manufacturing employment fell by 100 jobs; however, employment shifts in the two published industries produced zero change. Paper manufacturing (subsector 322) increased its force by 100 jobs, as food manufacturing, and beverage & tobacco product manufacturing (a combination of subsectors 311 and 312) dropped 100 jobs.

TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, AND UTILITIES

The supersector 40, trade, transportation, and utilities 1,900-job increase was driven by holiday shopping activities. Wholesale trade augmented its work force with 100 employees, and retail trade elevated its employment level by 1,800 jobs. Transportation, warehousing, and utilities showed no change from November's totals in the most recent estimates.



The two published industries in wholesale trade made no adjustment to their total number of workers during December.

As would be expected at this time of year, clothing & clothing accessory stores, and general merchandise stores led the way with an 800-job increase. Department stores added 400 workers to their staffs, and electronic shopping and mail-order houses expanded crew size by 100.

Food and beverage stores trimmed their ranks by 100 jobs in December. The estimates indicated that supermarkets and other grocery (except convenience) stores absorbed the loss.

INFORMATION

Employment in information (supersector 50) grew by 100 jobs. The sample showed that elements in software publishing firms (industry group 5112) were primarily responsible for December's increase.

Newspaper, periodical, book, and directory publishers (industry group 5111) made no alteration of November's employment level in the December estimate.

FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Financial activities' (supersector 55) employment rose by 100 jobs in December's preliminary unadjusted estimates overall.

At the sector level, finance and insurance (sector 52) held its numbers of jobs constant at the November total, but inside the sector, insurance carriers added 100 jobs to the rolls.

Real estate and rental and leasing (sector 53) also posted a 100-job increase in December's estimates. According to the sample, the change was dispersed across the sector.

EDUCATION AND HEALTH SERVICES

Education and health services (supersector 65) employment was also influenced by seasonal events, as the supersector dropped 300 jobs in December's estimates. As educational services (sector 61) took a mid-term break, employment in the sector fell by 300 jobs overall. The number of jobs in colleges, universities, and professional schools (industry group 6113) declined by 500 in observance of the semester break.

At the top end, health care and social services job total remained unchanged from the previous month's level, but hospitals (subsector 622) and nursing care facilities (industry group 6231) each increased staff size by 100 positions.

LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY

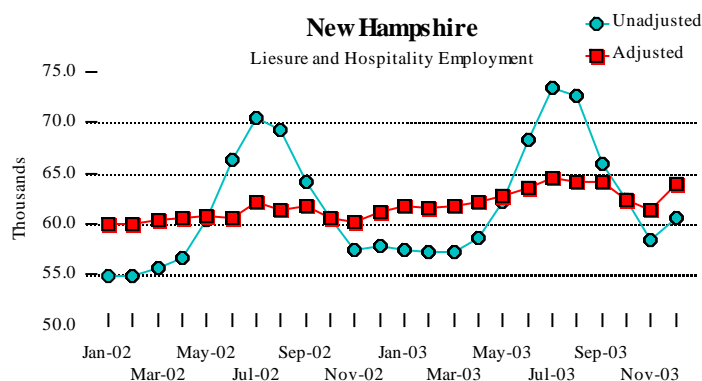
Recent snowstorms have enhanced the employment picture by 2,000 jobs in New Hampshire's leisure and hospitality (supersector 70) industries. The 2,000-job increase was divided evenly between arts, entertainment, and recreation (sector 71) and accommodation and food services (sector 72).

Within sector 71, amusement, gambling, and recreation industries (subsector 713) expanded employment levels by 1,100 jobs. The sample indicated that skiing activities played a major role in this December increase. Further, fitness and recreation sports centers also contributed to the growth pattern.

Accommodations (subsector 721) supplied 700 of the 1,000 additional jobs in sector 72. Limited-service eating places (industry group 7222) furnished the remaining 300 jobs. Employment in full-service restaurants (industry group 7221) stayed at the November level.

OTHER SERVICES

The sample showed that many of the industries in other services (supersector 80) made slight cutbacks in staff, which contributed to the overall minor 100-job decline.



GOVERNMENT

Preliminary estimates for December showed that government employment fell by 300 jobs. Federal and state government employment totals remained at the November level, while local government reduced its ranks by 300 jobs.

For state government, a 400-job decline in the university system was offset by increases in other areas of public administration.

Across the state, local governments trimmed their rolls by 200 jobs in educational services, and employment in other governmental services fell by 100 jobs.

